

It is up to us to Make This the Best Year in the History of the Valley. Are You Willing to Help?

# The Columbus Courier

Vol. V.

Columbus, Luna County, New Mexico, January 14, 1916.

No. 30

## Weld Cooper

Miss Lauretta Cooper, of Redlands, California, arrived here the first of the week and was met by Albert Weld. They left for El Paso and were married Wednesday evening by Rev. Porter of the M. E. Church at the parsonage. Miss Cooper was the old school mate sweetheart of Weld. Mr. Weld is employed as assistant cashier and book-keeper in the Columbus State Bank and is one of the most popular young men in the valley. They will return to Columbus Saturday evening. A wedding dinner will be prepared for them by Mrs. A. G. Beck at the Beck home west of town. The Courier and many friends join in extending their congratulations.

## Observations Made at Waterloo

Mrs. Holloway was shopping in Columbus Thursday.

There was preaching service at the school house Sunday by Rev. Hoddington. He came up from Columbus with John Stearley in his auto.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. White spent several days in Columbus last week, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Peters.

The parent-teacher club will meet at the school house Friday evening. An interesting program in addition to the regular program has been arranged.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Stone up to the riding camp on the Tres Hermanas mountains one of the fine afternoons last week.

W. T. Dixon has traded for an automobile and tried it out with a trip to Columbus Tuesday. Dick will probably use it in herding his goats if the high price of gasoline doesn't get his goat in the meantime.

## Dinner Party

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Stivison, Albert Weld and Earl Moore were entertained at a dinner party given by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Beck at their home last Saturday evening. A delightful dinner was served, and the evening was spent in pleasant amusement.

## Pool Hall Changes Hands

A deal was made this week between Thomas G. Lachland and Jack Green for the Lodge pool hall. Mr. Green taking over the entire equipment. Mr. Lachland retains the Wagon which will be enlarged and later a different line of merchandise will be added. The Lodge has always been paying property and we wish Mr. Green success in his enterprise.

## Soldiers to Remain Here

According to information received from the War Department by the commanding officer of the Thirteenth Cavalry no movement of the troops will be made at the present time. The message was received Wednesday morning. The affairs in Mexico do not seem to be as quiet as was supposed and the movement of the troops from a warm climate to a cold one at this time of the year is ample reason for the change of plans, especially when there is no imperative cause for the change of station.

The work of building quarters is about finished with the exceptions of the roofs. The roofing was shipped almost one month ago but has not yet arrived. As soon as it gets here it will be but a short time until the boys will all be comfortably housed.

## A Drouth Resisting Wheat

The Denver Field and Farm says: Some day in the near future our high plains regions will grow a variety of wheat so drouth resistant that it will flourish in a country of less than six inches of rainfall. If such a prophecy comes true, it means the reclamation of this great plains region from New Mexico into Canada and the pouring of untold millions of business of wheat into the granaries of the world.

## Building to Remain Open

The New Mexico building at the San Diego exposition is to be kept open another year. The committee now has \$5,000 in sight and from what it is expected will be raised by the different towns and counties in the state, funds will be provided to keep the building open. Now that the exposition at San Francisco has been closed it is thought that the advantage gained by advertising at San Diego will be greater this year than it was last, it being the chief attraction of the coast.

## Troop G Wins Football Game

Troop G defeated Troop K in a very interesting football game Wednesday afternoon. The game was one sided, though the losing troop made a much better showing than the score of 44 to 0 would indicate. Troop G has won the championship for the year 1915-16.

Miss Denton, who has been employed in the store of Lemon & Runney for the past few months, has pneumonia, and her condition is said to be very critical.

## Deep Well Now Assured

Messrs. Wilson, Parnworth & Jones, who have been here for the past ten days, have secured or have the promise of all the leases they required and the test well for oil is now a certainty. They have nearly all the leases signed up and those they desire that have not yet been will be at once as the owners of the property are very anxious to see something started and have expressed themselves as ready to sign up.

Their lease is said to be the best that has yet been offered the property owners here. It provides for the sinking of a well 75,000 feet deep and the work to begin within ninety days from January 7th. If oil in paying quantities is developed a well is to be sunk on each quarter section every year for eight years. The lease does not contain a rental clause and the company have bound themselves to either develop the field or forfeit their leases.

Mr. Wilson stated that as soon as the other leases were signed they would begin their arrangements to drill and it is an absolute fact that these people mean business and will make an effort to develop the field.

The people generally are very enthusiastic now over the situation. The outcome of the drilling will be awaited with considerable interest.

## Protection For Trees

Fruit growers in this vicinity have suffered some little loss of young fruit trees through the damage done by rabbits. Many of the orchardists have protected their trees by enclosing the entire orchard with woven wire fences but in spite of this precaution the little pests often gain entrance and ruin the trees by gnawing the bark. The Department of Agriculture has recently issued a formula of a poison tree wash which has proved highly satisfactory in the west and promises to be one of the most popular methods of protecting trees from rabbits.

Dissolve one ounce of strychnine sulphate in three quarts of boiling water and add one half pint of laundry starch, previously dissolved in cold water. Boil this mixture until it becomes a clear paste. Add one ounce of glycerine and stir thoroughly. When sufficiently cool apply to the trunks of the trees with a paint brush. Rabbits that gnaw the bark will be killed before they have done any damage to the trees.

The Twelve Trump Club will meet with Mrs. Lingo next Friday at 2 o'clock sharp.

## A Letter From a Booster

I have been thinking of making a suggestion to the good people of Columbus and the farmers and truck growers of the Lower Mimbres Valley, for some time and decided an open letter in your valuable paper would be the best way to do it.

I understand that some persons have said the farmer would have to go, as this country would not do for farming. That after the soldiers left there would be no market for what we raise etc.

Now I wish to say that I have lived in this beautiful valley nearly six years; that I came here from Oklahoma when my mother sold her farm for \$5,000 and in the sixteen years we lived there we never raised and ripened one tomato, or cabbage enough to make a mess of cold stew. We did raise wheat—large crops some years, but except melons and early garden we never raised very much in the truck line. Now here we have raised all we could use and put up for ourselves: feed one cow, one horse and three dozen chickens until January first. The year we came here we also sold produce off of one acre of ground, irrigating with one wind mill and a 4 inch pump. That wind mill never cost us a cent more than the last year when we had on the little can look after it, except the oil for the leathers. Cheap pumping, was it not?

Now my suggestion is that Columbus help the farmers to find a market for their produce. I have eaten tomatoes that were canned in the New England states since I came here. Think of it, when we can raise world beater tomatoes right here, also pumpkins, sweet potatoes, in fact everything that grows in a garden.

So why not put in a cannery in Columbus to can our surplus produce. And here is another business that could be carried on and a more ideal climate could not be found, the manufacture of macaroni, noodles, yeast cakes etc.

You might say let the farmer put in his own cannery, but let me tell you he works from daylight until after dark irrigating and taking care of what he raises. Of course they might put in a co-operative cannery and hire some one to operate it.

I think, though my judgement might not amount to much, that this is worthy of your consideration.

So let us up and be doing, as it will soon be time to put out our hot beds, let all the people of the Lower Mimbres pull together.

One thing which it might be well to mention here, is, next year you men who have a vote will be electing men to make our laws, it would be well to see that men were put in office that would make laws protecting the farmer as well as the stock man.

Very truly yours, MRS. W. B. CLOSE.

We have investigated the matter of costs of installing a cannery outfit that would be of sufficient size to meet the requirements of this place at the present time. It would be necessary to have a capital of at least \$2,500. Editor.

There will be a dance at Sunnyside tonight. Everybody is cordially invited to attend.

## Employs Additional Teacher

At a special meeting of the Columbus Board of Education held Tuesday afternoon an additional teacher was employed to teach in the public school. The attendance has been gradually increasing all the while, and also the law of compulsory attendance was brought to bear a little stronger than it had been in the past. Mrs. C. H. Hoddington was employed as the fifth teacher, and it appears that the board made a very wise choice in selecting Mrs. Hoddington, she being well qualified and has had a wide experience in this line of work.

The fact that the Columbus school is growing proves beyond doubt that the town and community is growing. At the close of the school term in April 1912 only one teacher and one room was required to take care of our school population. An increase of four teachers in three years is a good showing and the possibilities are that at least six teachers will be necessary next term.

Both the new and old school buildings are being used this year and with the employment of an additional teacher makes it necessary to put two teachers in the same room, the large room up stairs in the new building being now used for that purpose. A larger building will be needed next year and it is now time that

Good sense. The new building was so constructed that an addition can be built on the north side, and some means of raising the necessary funds for the construction of an addition will have to be met. The new building was considered large enough for some time to come when it was built, and though just completed less than two years ago, the new board find themselves crowded and in need of more room.

There will be a large class ready for high school next term and in fact there is a good sized class taking high school work this year. Columbus will need a high school and efforts should be made for the establishment of same. The growth of a town depends to a large extent upon its seat of learning, and the people and citizens of Columbus and the valley should assist the board in every way possible in carrying out their plans for the improvement of the school when they get them formed.

## A Gentleman

In one of our exchanges we note the following definition of a gentleman, which is so good that we herewith publish same:

The word "gentleman" is defined in this way: A man who is clean both inside and out; who neither looks up to the rich nor down on the poor; who can lose without squealing and win without bragging; who is considerate of women, children and old people; who is too brave to lie, too generous to cheat, and who takes his share of the world and lets other people have theirs.

## Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid will hold a meeting at the home of Mrs. A. L. Taylor Wednesday, January 19. The ladies are requested to come at one o'clock as a comfort is to be tied. After the work is done tea will be served. All ladies are invited.

## Let's Help Each Other

The success of the citizens of this valley will depend largely, for some time to come, upon their co-operation. The man who tills the soil must have a market for his products or he will be forced to go out of business. The merchants ought to be able to handle everything grown. The grain dealers can take the grain that is grown here and use it to an advantage. The grocery stores ought to be able to take the garden stuff from the grower, giving him the money that has been going to the railroad company. It is to your interest and mine, and to everyone that the farmer be encouraged and assisted in every way possible, for he has been, possibly always will be the backbone of the valley.

One thing that every buyer should do, as much so as possible, insist upon home grown products. Of course we all understand that the products in past have not been sufficient to supply the local demand, but many of the growers have had a difficult job to sell what they produced. If we insist upon home grown products the farmer will be encouraged to greater efforts and they will become more prosperous and so will you. There is many things we buy that can be produced here and it is to our interest to encourage their production. Patronize home industry. Buy it Grown in the Valley.

## SEV. Wind Storm

Tuesday was one of the worst days Columbus has had this winter. There was a strong southwest wind in the morning and before noon it had changed about to a northwest wind, which brought snow and rain. The wind kept up pretty steady all day and the temperature fell to a few points above zero. Many of the oldest settlers say it was one of the worst days they ever saw here.

## Public School Notes

Following are the names of the pupils who were neither late nor tardy during the fourth month of school ending January 7th:

Mr. Stivison's room: Lingurs, Burthend.

Miss Burton's room: Andrew, Carreon, Glen Dean Evans, Reyesal Gomez, Roy Davis Gaspar Estrada, Lenneth Hunt, and R. Smysler.

Miss Page's room: Ros Montelongo, Frederico Delgado, Carlota Camares, Ethel Bain, Tomas Montelongo, Juan Rueda, and Maria Acosta.

Parents can assist greatly in helping pupils get to school on time. There is an unjustifiable amount of tardiness and absences and your co-operation is solicited in the matter.

A special effort is being made to strictly enforce the compulsory school law. Anyone known to be violating this law will be dealt with according to the terms of the law.

A partition will be built in the large room up stairs to make room for the increased attendance.

A short program will be given by Mr. Stivison's classes Friday afternoon.

J. R. Chidborn, who suffered a stroke of paralysis last June, is improving slowly. He is able to walk around some with the assistance of crutches.

## Lest You Forget.

We say it yet, for Merchandise see us and get our prices before you buy. A complete line of groceries at all times. Everything Good to Eat or Wear

Try a pair of our Famous Walk Over shoes and you'll never wear any other brand. Try a pair.

# SAM RAVEL